

**REMARKS**

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to delete the multiple dependency of the claims, thereby reducing the required PTO filing fee.

Respectfully submitted,

Keisuke SONE et al.

By 

Nils E. Pedersen

Registration No. 33,145

Attorney for Applicants

NEP/krp  
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021  
Telephone (202) 721-8200  
Facsimile (202) 721-8250  
May 30, 2006